

Message Text

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67

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 AGR-20 DRC-01 IO-14 NIC-01

SAJ-01 EUR-25 /162 W

----- 054550

R 240759Z MAY 74 ZDK

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 876

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 5879

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: CHEKIANG LEADERSHIP IN FLUX

REF: HONG KONG 4834

1. THE LEADERSHIP SITUATION IN CHEKIANG, WHERE REHABILITATED CIVILIANS AND REVOLUTIONARY NEW CADRE MAY BE PITTED AGAINST EACH OTHER (REFTEL), REMAINS FLUID. FIRST SECRETARY TAN CHI-LUNG TURNED OUT TO GREET AND HOST A BANQUET FOR CYPRUS PRESIDENT MAKARIOS MAY 22. TAN, A VETERAN WHO LOST HIS JOB DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, HAD MISSED SEVERAL IMPORTANT EVENTS SINCE HIS LAST PREVIOUS APPEARANCE APRIL 20.

2. ON APRIL 26, CERTAIN CHEKIANG LEADERS WERE DENOUNCED FOR FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF LIN PIAO. THE MAN BEHIND THOSE DENUNCIATIONS IS EX-RED GUARD CHANG YUNG-SHENG, A FAVORITE OF
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MADAME MAO. CHANG WAS ALSO PRESENT FOR THE MAKARIOS VISIT,

RANKED FOURTH BEHIND TAN AND TWO OTHER CHEKIANG PARTY VETERANS.
THE RANKING IS CHANG'S LOWEST SINCE HIS MARCH REEMERGENCE FROM
OBSCURITY.

3. COMMENT. VISITS LIKE THAT OF MAKARIOS TO CHEKIANG ARE
ARRANGED BY PEKING, AND THEY ARE PUBLICIZED BY NCNA, ALSO
CONTROLLED FROM THE CENTER. CHANG'S CONTRASTING HIGH PROFILE
IN LOCAL CHEKIANG BROADCASTS MAY REFLECT HIS GREATER INFLUENCE
OVER MEDIA THERE. THE ACTUAL POWER POSITION OF TAN AND CHANG
REMAINS UNCLEAR, AS BOTH APPARENTLY CONTINUE TO ENJOY IMPORTANT
BACKING.
CROSS

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